



*Field Guides Tour Report*

**BRAZIL'S RIO ROOSEVELT: CHRISTMAS ON THE RIVER OF DOUBT 2012**

Dec 14, 2012 to Dec 27, 2012  
Bret Whitney

*For our tour description, itinerary, past triplists, dates, fees, and more, please [VISIT OUR TOUR PAGE](#).*

2012 marked our third consecutive Christmas tour to the Pousada Rio Roosevelt, and by far the driest of the three tours. We barely pulled out our raingear, which is quite unusual for this time of year. River levels were reasonably high. I learned that torrential rains came much later, in March-April 2013, dumping so much rain that the Roosevelt rose to a record level, flooding the dining room!! Wow, that's hard to imagine, one heckuva lot of water. The dry conditions were ok for us, and probably didn't interfere much with birding although song in the dawn chorus was somewhat subdued.

As usual, we started off with a bit of birding around the capital of Rondonia state, Porto Velho, followed by a couple of nights near Humaitá, west of the Madeira. Our first evening marked one of the great tour highlights, in my opinion, as we witnessed an incredible show of Purple Martins coming to roost near the bank of the Madeira right in town. There were easily over half a million birds -- I estimated around 800,000 -- it was simply awesome to see the numbers build over the course of 30 minutes at dusk, then watch them begin to mass and swirl silently and ever more tightly before suddenly plunging some 400 vertical feet to land in about a dozen smallish trees surrounded by streetlights (which they always seem to prefer for night roosts) -- all of this going on as local folks went about their business of selling popcorn, skateboarding, strolling around, some occasionally glancing skyward. I have noticed numbers of Purple Martins increasing somewhat over the past three years, from low hundreds to low thousands, but this was a major leap upward, as large a concentration as they are likely to have anywhere in the winter range. Perhaps it has something to do with the construction of multiple dams nearby on the Rio Madeira; we'll see how it goes forward.

Then it was across the great Rio Madeira on the ferry (new bridge opening held up for political reasons) to head north along the west bank to Humaitá. A couple of Jabirus along the way was unusual but not unexpected in such a dry year. Our birding out of Humaitá proved quite productive, the number one stunner being terrific views of Ocellated Crake, which paraded across an opening in dense grass five times in three minutes; boy I wish they would always do that! We also enjoyed superb views of Ash-throated Crake and Azure Gallinule. Other grassland highlights included excellent views of Sharp-tailed Tyrant, the rarely seen Amazonian population of Black-masked Finch, and breeding Dark-throated (supposedly) seedeaters. Forest areas yielded fine views of the newly described Western Striolated-Puffbird and Predicted Antwren, the latter barely coming out from badly degraded habitat where a community of some 60 houses has sprung up over the past few years (no sign of the Campina Jays we'd lucked out seeing there last year, and I doubt they'll show there again).

The charter flight out to the Rio Roosevelt was spectacular, as fog had lifted and visibility was good. It was exciting to see the airstrip appear in the middle of the vast, green forest, just above the bank of the river. We quickly settled in for a week at the very comfortable pousada, and didn't see anyone on the river who was not at the lodge -- this is a truly remote place! Birding was very good! Mention of outstanding encounters would have to include a very cooperative Zigzag Heron (although he took his sweet time showing up!), Red-throated Piping-Guans and Razor-billed Curassows on river trips, brilliant Crimson-bellied Parakeets, good numbers of big macaws, and scope views of multiple Orange-cheeked Parrots and Kawall's Parrots; several Black-bellied Cuckoos, a fabulous Crested Owl that stayed put in the spotlight for a couple of minutes, and a vespertine show of nighthawks that will stay with me forever. We first noted a handful of Common Nighthawks high over the Roosevelt, then, as dusk started to settle, more than a hundred Sand-colored Nighthawks appeared low over the river, sharply flashing black-and-white. As we neared Santa Rita rapids, the river framed by towering orange and purple cumulus clouds, we realized that the upper levels were full of coursing Common Nighthawks, the most I'd ever seen anywhere on the wintering grounds -- it was a spectacular sight, those two species of Chordeiles over the Roosevelt that Christmas Eve. Continuing with the roster of great sightings, a male Pavonine Quetzal was a gorgeous find, we had unusually fine views of Rufous Motmot (rarely seen well in Amazonia), and we had great looks at all six possible species of jacamars. We saw Gould's Toucanet well, to go with a fine Golden-collared we'd seen earlier, across the Madeira at Humaitá. Best antbirds were Pearly Antshrike, Sclater's antwren, White-breasted Antbird, and several species described to science only in June, 2013, in the Special Volume of the Handbook of the Birds of the World: Manicore Warbling-Antbird, Roosevelt Stipple-throated Antwren, and Aripuana Antwren, the latter photographed nicely by Bob (his photo was published in HBW!). Also described in that volume was Chico's Tyrannulet, which I'd found on the 2009 tour -- we had fabulous views of a pair at the site of discovery! Other small flycatchers seen well included the little-known Buff-cheeked Tody-Flycatcher (it's actually a tody-tyrant) and Zimmer's Tody-Tyrant. An exploratory investigation of a campina led to a brief encounter with the Amazonian subspecies of Plush-crested Jay, a bird rarely seen on tours. Both Scaly-breasted and Musician wrens were heard and seen well, we got Tooth-billed Wren and Para Gnatcatcher, and special tanagers included Paradise, Green-and-gold, and a rare Dotted seen well.

We encountered seven species of primates this trip, including White-nosed Bearded Saki and Common Woolly Monkey. We also saw Neotropical River Otter, a small group of Giant Otters up very close (wow!), and three Brazilian Tapirs.

I very much enjoyed birding with all of you, and hope that this list helps bring back fond memories of our tour on the Rio Roosevelt, way back at Christmas last year! A couple of good things about having the list come out now is that all of the new species we kept talking about have now been formally described (in HBW), and their names are included on the following list, and the list uses the most up-to-date phylogenetic order (you'll notice a number of families showing up in different order than our tour checklist).

--Bret

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KEYS FOR THIS LIST

One of the following keys may be shown in brackets for individual species as appropriate: \* = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic, N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant

## BIRDS

### Tinamidae (Tinamous)

**GRAY TINAMOU** (*Tinamus tao*) – A bunch of heard-only tinamous, as usual! We saw a couple of big guys rocket off the forest floor, probably Gray Tinamous. [\*]

**GREAT TINAMOU** (*Tinamus major*) [\*]

**WHITE-THROATED TINAMOU** (*Tinamus guttatus*) [\*]

**CINEREOUS TINAMOU** (*Crypturellus cinereus*) [\*]

**UNDULATED TINAMOU** (*Crypturellus undulatus*) [\*]

**BRAZILIAN TINAMOU** (*Crypturellus strigulosus*) [\*]

**VARIEGATED TINAMOU** (*Crypturellus variegatus*) [\*]

**SMALL-BILLED TINAMOU** (*Crypturellus parvirostris*) [\*]

**RED-WINGED TINAMOU** (*Rhynchotus rufescens*) [\*]

### Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

**BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK** (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)

**MUSCOVY DUCK** (*Cairina moschata*)

**BRAZILIAN TEAL** (*Amazonetta brasiliensis*) – One spotted by Judy was our only sighting.

### Cracidae (Guans, Chachalacas, and Curassows)

**SPECKLED CHACHALACA** (*Ortalis guttata*)

**SPIX'S GUAN** (*Penelope jacquacu*)

**RED-THROATED PIPING-GUAN** (*Pipile cujubi*)

**RAZOR-BILLED CURASSOW** (*Mitu tuberosum*)

### Odontophoridae (New World Quail)

**STARRED WOOD-QUAIL** (*Odontophorus stellatus*) – Wow, what a strange experience this was: I accidentally played a piece of recording of Starred Wood-Quail and one immediately answered very close. I managed to pull it across the trail for folks to see, which worked but it was brief. Neat!

### Ciconiidae (Storks)

**JABIRU** (*Jabiru mycteria*)

### Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

**NEOTROPIC CORMORANT** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

### Anhingidae (Anhingas)

**ANHINGA** (*Anhinga anhinga*)

### Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

**ZIGZAG HERON** (*Zebrilus undulatus*) – Wonderful studies of a fine, shaggy-crested male after much looking.

**RUFESCENT TIGER-HERON** (*Tigrisoma lineatum*)

**COCOI HERON** (*Ardea cocoi*)

**GREAT EGRET** (*Ardea alba*)

**SNOWY EGRET** (*Egretta thula*)

**CATTLE EGRET** (*Bubulcus ibis*)

**STRIATED HERON** (*Butorides striata*)

**CAPPED HERON** (*Pilherodius pileatus*)

**BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

**BOAT-BILLED HERON** (*Cochlearius cochlearius*)

### Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

**GREEN IBIS** (*Mesembrinibis cayennensis*)

### Cathartidae (New World Vultures)

**BLACK VULTURE** (*Coragyps atratus*)

**TURKEY VULTURE** (*Cathartes aura*)

**LESSER YELLOW-HEADED VULTURE** (*Cathartes burrovianus*)

**GREATER YELLOW-HEADED VULTURE** (*Cathartes melambrotus*)

**KING VULTURE** (*Sarcoramphus papa*)

### Pandionidae (Osprey)

**OSPREY** (*Pandion haliaetus*) – Raptors were overall disappointing this trip -- not sure why they were so scarce.

### Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

**PEARL KITE** (*Gampsonyx swainsonii*) – Two near Humaitá where rare but regular.

**GRAY-HEADED KITE** (*Leptodon cayanensis*)

**SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** (*Elanoides forficatus*)

**DOUBLE-TOOTHED KITE** (*Harpagus bidentatus*)

**PLUMBEOUS KITE** (*Ictinia plumbea*)

**SAVANNA HAWK** (*Buteogallus meridionalis*)

**GREAT BLACK-HAWK** (*Buteogallus urubitinga*)

**ROADSIDE HAWK** (*Rupornis magnirostris*)

**WHITE-TAILED HAWK** (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*)

**GRAY-LINED HAWK** (*Buteo nitidus*) [\*]

*Eurypygidae (Sunbittern)*

**SUNBITTERN** (*Eurypyga helias*) – Two seen well

*Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)*

**OCELLATED CRAKE** (*Micropygia schomburgkii*) – As mentioned in the Intro, we had great views of one -- check out the video of the first pass it gave us (repeated in slo mo) >>>>

**RUSSET-CROWNED CRAKE** (*Anurolimnas viridis*) [\*]

**ASH-THROATED CRAKE** (*Porzana albicollis*) – Also seen super-well this year.

**AZURE GALLINULE** (*Porphyrio flavirostris*) – Several birds at the height of breeding activity, superb scope studies.

*Heliornithidae (Finfoots)*

**SUNGREBE** (*Heliornis fulica*) – Seen well on three days

*Psophiidae (Trumpeters)*

**DARK-WINGED TRUMPETER** (*Psophia viridis*) – Effectively "heard only", seen just as fleeting shapes on the ground. I'm sorry we didn't manage to get them better.

*Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)*

**SOUTHERN LAPWING** (*Vanellus chilensis*)

**COLLARED PLOVER** (*Charadrius collaris*)

*Jacanidae (Jacanas)*

**WATTLED JACANA** (*Jacana jacana*)

*Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)*

**SPOTTED SANDPIPER** (*Actitis macularius*)

**SOLITARY SANDPIPER** (*Tringa solitaria*)

*Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)*

**LARGE-BILLED TERN** (*Phaetusa simplex*)

**BLACK SKIMMER** (*Rynchops niger*)

*Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)*

**ROCK PIGEON** (*Columba livia*)

**PALE-VENTED PIGEON** (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)

**SCALED PIGEON** (*Patagioenas speciosa*)

**PLUMBEOUS PIGEON** (*Patagioenas plumbea*)

**RUDDY PIGEON** (*Patagioenas subvinacea*)

**COMMON GROUND-DOVE** (*Columbina passerina*)

**RUDDY GROUND-DOVE** (*Columbina talpacoti*)

**WHITE-TIPPED DOVE** (*Leptotila verreauxi*)

**GRAY-FRONTED DOVE** (*Leptotila rufaxilla*) [\*]

**RUDDY QUAIL-DOVE** (*Geotrygon montana*)

*Opisthocomidae (Hoatzin)*

**HOATZIN** (*Opisthocomus hoazin*) – Several small groups along the Roosevelt above the lodge; weird birds!!

*Cuculidae (Cuckoos)*

**SQUIRREL CUCKOO** (*Piaya cayana*)

**BLACK-BELLIED CUCKOO** (*Piaya melanogaster*) – Seen nicely several times, especially so from the tower.

**STRIPED CUCKOO** (*Tapera naevia*) [\*]

**GREATER ANI** (*Crotophaga major*)

**SMOOTH-BILLED ANI** (*Crotophaga ani*)

*Strigidae (Owls)*

**TAWNY-BELLIED SCREECH-OWL** (*Megascops watsonii*) [\*]

**CRESTED OWL** (*Lophotrix cristata*) – Here's a little video I made while attempting to hold the spotlight!

**AMAZONIAN PYGMY-OWL** (*Glaucidium hardyi*) – Seen very nicely from the tower.

**BURROWING OWL** (*Athene cunicularia*)

*Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)*

**LEAST NIGHTHAWK** (*Chordeiles pusillus*)

**SAND-COLORED NIGHTHAWK** (*Chordeiles rupestris*) – I wish I could have made video that did justice to the fine nighthawk show we had on Christmas Eve -- the birds were just too high, in general, to show at the resolution we use on the 'net.

**COMMON NIGHTHAWK** (*Chordeiles minor*)

**COMMON PAURAUQUE** (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)

**BLACKISH NIGHTJAR** (*Caprimulgus nigrescens*)

**LADDER-TAILED NIGHTJAR** (*Hydropsalis climacocerca*)

*Apodidae (Swifts)*

**AMAZONIAN SWIFT** (*Chaetura viridipennis*) – A few seen nicely from the tower.

**SHORT-TAILED SWIFT** (*Chaetura brachyura*)

**GRAY-RUMPED SWIFT** (*Chaetura cinereiventris*)

**PALE-RUMPED SWIFT** (*Chaetura egregia*)

**FORK-TAILED PALM-SWIFT** (*Tachornis squamata*)

*Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)*

**WHITE-NECKED JACOBIN** (*Florisuga mellivora*)

**NEEDLE-BILLED HERMIT** (*Phaethornis philippii*) – One very good view, and several brief looks and squeak-bys.

**LONG-TAILED HERMIT** (*Phaethornis superciliosus*)

**REDDISH HERMIT** (*Phaethornis ruber*)

**BLACK-EARED FAIRY** (*Heliodytes auritus*)

**BLACK-THROATED MANGO** (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*)

**GRAY-BREASTED SABREWING** (*Campylopterus largipennis*)

**FORK-TAILED WOODNYMPH** (*Thalurania furcata*)

**VERSICOLORED EMERALD (RONDONIA)** (*Amazilia versicolor rondoniae*) – This is the subspecies Bob spotted near Porto Velho; it is considered a separate species by the Brazilian Ornithological Records Committee.

*Trogonidae (Trogons)*

**PAVONINE QUETZAL** (*Pharomachrus pavoninus*) – A fine male graced the scope toward the end of the tour.

**BLACK-TAILED TROGON** (*Trogon melanurus*)

**GREEN-BACKED TROGON** (*Trogon viridis*)

**AMAZONIAN TROGON** (*Trogon ramonianus*) [\*]

**BLUE-CROWNED TROGON** (*Trogon curucui*) [\*]

**BLACK-THROATED TROGON** (*Trogon rufus*) [\*]

**COLLARED TROGON** (*Trogon collaris*) [\*]

*Momotidae (Motmots)*

**AMAZONIAN MOTMOT** (*Momotus momota*) [\*]

**RUFIOUS MOTMOT** (*Baryphthengus martii*)

*Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)*

**RINGED KINGFISHER** (*Megasceryle torquata*)

**AMAZON KINGFISHER** (*Chloroceryle amazona*)

**GREEN KINGFISHER** (*Chloroceryle americana*)

**GREEN-AND-RUFIOUS KINGFISHER** (*Chloroceryle inda*) – A very nice view of this one, always a special event.

**AMERICAN PYGMY KINGFISHER** (*Chloroceryle aenea*) – Also seen beautifully

*Bucconidae (Puffbirds)*

**BROWN-BANDED PUFFBIRD** (*Notharchus ordii*) – A pair responded well and stayed put for good scope views near Humaitá.

**NATTERER'S STRIOLATED-PUFFBIRD** (*Nystalus striolatus*) – We couldn't get that bird to budge, heard high overhead one late afternoon. This nominate form is rarely seen. [\*]

**WESTERN STRIOLATED-PUFFBIRD** (*Nystalus obamai*) – This is newly described *Nystalus obamai*, seen well near Humaitá (it occurs only west of the Rio Madeira).

**WHITE-EARED PUFFBIRD** (*Nystalus chacuru*) – Great views near Humaitá

**BLACK-FRONTED NUNBIRD** (*Monasa nigrifrons*)

**WHITE-FRONTED NUNBIRD** (*Monasa morphoeus*)

**SWALLOW-WINGED PUFFBIRD** (*Chelidoptera tenebrosa*)

*Galbulidae (Jacamars)*

**BROWN JACAMAR** (*Brachygalba lugubris*) – Wonderful studies of three birds together on our exploratory morning up a small tributary of the Roosevelt.

**BLUE-CHEEKED JACAMAR** (*Galbula cyanicollis*)

**RUFIOUS-TAILED JACAMAR** (*Galbula ruficauda*)

**BRONZY JACAMAR** (*Galbula leucogastra*)

**PARADISE JACAMAR** (*Galbula dea*)

**GREAT JACAMAR** (*Jacamerops aureus*)

*Capitonidae (New World Barbets)*

**BLACK-GIRDLED BARBET** (*Capito dayi*)

**GILDED BARBET** (*Capito auratus*) – George contributed a great spot on a male Gilded!

*Ramphastidae (Toucans)*

**IVORY-BILLED ARACARI** (*Pteroglossus azara*)

**RED-NECKED ARACARI** (*Pteroglossus bitorquatus*) – Seen well from the tower; it's replaced west of the Madeira by the Ivory-billed, also seen well this trip.

**GOLDEN-COLLARED TOUCANET** (*Selenidera reinwardtii*)

**GOULD'S TOUCANET** (*Selenidera gouldii*)

**WHITE-THROATED TOUCAN** (*Ramphastos tucanus*)

**CHANNEL-BILLED TOUCAN** (*Ramphastos vitellinus*) [\*]

*Picidae (Woodpeckers)*

**BAR-BREASTED PICULET** (*Picumnus aurifrons*) – A very close study of one spotted by Bob right beside the road early in the tour.

**YELLOW-TUFTED WOODPECKER** (*Melanerpes cruentatus*)

**RED-STAINED WOODPECKER** (*Veniliornis affinis*)

**YELLOW-THROATED WOODPECKER** (*Piculus flavigula*) – Another good spot by Bob on this one!

**GOLDEN-GREEN WOODPECKER** (*Piculus chrysochloros*) – Seen several times, which is unusual.

**SCALE-BREASTED WOODPECKER** (*Ceelus grammicus*)

**CREAM-COLORED WOODPECKER** (*Ceelus flavus*) – Stunning scope studies of a stunning pair of birds!

**RINGED WOODPECKER** (*Ceelus torquatus*)

**LINEATED WOODPECKER** (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

**RED-NECKED WOODPECKER** (*Campephilus rubricollis*)

*Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)*

**BARRED FOREST-FALCON** (*Micrastur ruficollis*) [\*]

**BLACK CARACARA** (*Daptrius ater*)

**RED-THROATED CARACARA** (*Ibycter americanus*)

**SOUTHERN CARACARA** (*Caracara plancus*)

**YELLOW-HEADED CARACARA** (*Milvago chimachima*)

**LAUGHING FALCON** (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)

**AMERICAN KESTREL** (*Falco sparverius*)

**BAT FALCON** (*Falco rufifigularis*)

**PEREGRINE FALCON** (*Falco peregrinus*) – One adult on the power pilons at the dam site above Porto Velho; possibly wintering there.

*Psittacidae (Parrots)*

**CRIMSON-BELLIED PARAKEET** (*Pyrrhura perlata*) – Very cooperative birds around the clay lick.

**SANTAREM PARAKEET (MADEIRA)** (*Pyrrhura amazonum snethlageae*)

**PEACH-FRONTED PARAKEET** (*Aratinga aurea*)

**CHESTNUT-FRONTED MACAW** (*Ara severus*)

**RED-AND-GREEN MACAW** (*Ara chloropterus*)

**SCARLET MACAW** (*Ara macao*)

**BLUE-AND-YELLOW MACAW** (*Ara ararauna*)

**RED-BELLIED MACAW** (*Orthopsittaca manilata*)

**RED-SHOULDERED MACAW** (*Diopsittaca nobilis*)

**GOLDEN-WINGED PARAKEET** (*Brotogeris chrysoptera*)

**ORANGE-CHEEKED PARROT** (*Pytilia barrabandi*) – Ditto that last comment -- wow, what a great place to see this bird!

**BLUE-HEADED PARROT** (*Pionus menstruus*)

**KAWALL'S PARROT** (*Amazona kawalli*) – Not real easy to see well this time, but George spotted a couple of perched birds that did the trick.

**YELLOW-CROWNED PARROT** (*Amazona ochrocephala*)

*Thamnophilidae (Typical Antbirds)*

**FASCIATED ANTSHRIKE** (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*)

**GLOSSY ANTSHRIKE** (*Sakesphorus luctuosus*) – Fine views of this handsome bird from the boats at the river edge.

**BARRED ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)

**PLAIN-WINGED ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus schistaceus*)

**MOUSE-COLORED ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus murinus*)

**NATTERER'S SLATY-ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus stictocephalus*) – A good view of a pair in the campina.



**WHITE-SHOULDERED ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus aethiops*)  
**AMAZONIAN ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnophilus amazonicus*)  
**PEARLY ANTSHRIKE** (*Megastictus margaritatus*)  
**SATURNINE ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnomanes saturninus*) – Good views of these guys with understory flocks.  
**CINEREOUS ANTSHRIKE** (*Thamnomanes caesius*)  
**PLAIN-THROATED ANTWREN** (*Iseria hauxwelli*)  
**SPOT-WINGED ANTSHRIKE** (*Pygiptila stellaris*) [\*]  
**WHITE-EYED ANTWREN** (*Epinecophylla leucophthalma*)  
**ROOSEVELT STIPPLE-THROATED ANTWREN** (*Epinecophylla dentei*) – Newly described species (HBW Special Volume), occurring only between the Aripuana/Roosevelt and Machado rivers. Great views!!  
**ORNATE ANTWREN** (*Epinecophylla ornata*) – Red-backed subspecies *E. o. hoffmannsi*.  
**PYGMY ANTWREN** (*Myrmotherula brachyura*) [\*]  
**SCLATER'S ANTWREN** (*Myrmotherula sclateri*) – Seen well on both sides of the Madeira, which is tough to do!  
**WHITE-FLANKED ANTWREN** (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)  
**LONG-WINGED ANTWREN** (*Myrmotherula longipennis*) – Good views, but just once.  
**GRAY ANTWREN** (*Myrmotherula menetriesii*) – Seen well on both banks of the Roosevelt.  
**ARIPUANA ANTWREN** (*Herpsilochmus stotzi*) – Another new antbird from the HBW volume; seen super-well and photographed by Bob on our exploratory boat trip up a tributary of the Roosevelt.  
**PREDICTED ANTWREN** (*Herpsilochmus praedictus*) – This one is also newly described in HBW, sister to the Aripuana Antwren, occurring only west of the Madeira. We were lucky to get a male into view in highly disturbed forest where it was easy to see as recently as 2009. I'll paste in a video clip of our bird here >>>>  
**DOT-WINGED ANTWREN** (*Microrhopias quixensis*)  
**WHITE-FRINGED ANTWREN** (*Formicivora grisea*)  
**RUSTY-BACKED ANTWREN** (*Formicivora rufa*) – A fine pair in the campos of Humaitá.  
**GRAY ANTBIRD** (*Cercomacra cinerascens*)  
**BLACKISH ANTBIRD** (*Cercomacra nigrescens*)  
**WHITE-BROWED ANTBIRD** (*Myrmoborus leucophrys*)  
**BLACK-FACED ANTBIRD** (*Myrmoborus myotherinus*)  
**PERUVIAN WARBLING-ANTBIRD** (*Hypocnemis peruviana*) – This one is only west of the Madeira.  
**MANICORE WARBLING-ANTBIRD** (*Hypocnemis rondoni*) – Yowza, ANOTHER newly described species! Seen real well on a couple of days. It occurs only west of the Roosevelt and differs most conspicuously from closely related species in its call, which you can hear once in the adjoining video clip from our tour >>>>  
**SPIX'S WARBLING-ANTBIRD** (*Hypocnemis striata implicata*) – Seen well on the right bank of the Roosevelt  
**BLACK-CHINNED ANTBIRD** (*Hypocnemoides melanopogon*) [\*]  
**SILVERED ANTBIRD** (*Sclateria naevia*) [\*]  
**RUFOUS-FACED ANTBIRD** (*Schistocichla rufifacies*) – Especially nice views of this skulker >>>>  
**[CHESTNUT-TAILED] ANTBIRD** (*Myrmeciza [hemimelaena] taxon novum*) – Great views; we're still working on figuring out relationships in the Chestnut-tailed complex.  
**WHITE-BREASTED ANTBIRD** (*Rhegmatorhina hoffmannsi*) – Whew! Scarce this time around, but seen well at our one good antswarm.  
**SPOT-BACKED ANTBIRD** (*Hylophylax naevius*)  
**DOT-BACKED ANTBIRD** (*Hylophylax punctulatus*) – Fine views of a sneaky male.  
**COMMON SCALE-BACKED ANTBIRD** (*Willisornis poecilinotus*)  
**BLACK-SPOTTED BARE-EYE** (*Phlegopsis nigromaculata*) – Seen nicely at the same swarm as the White-breasteds.

*Conopophagidae (Gnateaters)*  
**CHESTNUT-BELTED GNATEATER** (*Conopophaga aurita*) – Excellent views of an adult male -- but we simply could not come up with a Black-bellied this tour (and we missed last year as well!).

*Grallariidae (Antpittas)*  
**ALTA FLORESTA ANTPITTA** (*Hyllopezus whittakeri*) – This is the "Spotted Antpitta" recently described as a separate species. [\*]  
**THRUSH-LIKE ANTPITTA** (*Myrmothera campanisona*) [\*]

*Formicariidae (Antthrushes)*  
**RUFOUS-CAPPED ANTTHRUSH** (*Formicarius colma*) – A real nice view of a male that came in close and paraded around for a couple of minutes!

*Furnariidae (Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers)*  
**OLIVACEOUS WOODCREEPER** (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*)  
**LONG-TAILED WOODCREEPER** (*Deconychura longicauda*)  
**PLAIN-BROWN WOODCREEPER** (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)  
**WHITE-CHINNED WOODCREEPER** (*Dendrocincla merula*) – Seen well at the antswarm.  
**WEDGE-BILLED WOODCREEPER** (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)  
**LONG-BILLED WOODCREEPER** (*Nasica longirostris*)  
**AMAZONIAN BARRED-WOODCREEPER** (*Dendrocolaptes certhia*)

**HOFFMANN'S WOODCREEPER** (*Dendrocolaptes hoffmannsi*) – Aarrgh, couldn't get the one singing bird we found to come into view. [\*]  
**RED-BILLED WOODCREEPER (UNIFORM)** (*Hylexetastes perrotii uniformis*) – Good views of this seldom-seen species.  
**STRIPED WOODCREEPER** (*Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*)  
**ELEGANT WOODCREEPER** (*Xiphorhynchus elegans*)  
**BUFF-THROATED WOODCREEPER (DUSKY-BILLED)** (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus eytoni*)  
**STRAIGHT-BILLED WOODCREEPER** (*Dendroplex picus*)  
**RONDONIA WOODCREEPER** (*Lepidocolaptes fuscicapillus*) – This one was split from widespread Lineated Woodcreeper in the HBW volume as part of the description of Inambari Woodcreeper (*L. fatimalimae*), which replaces it west of the Madeira (and which we did not come across).  
**RUFOUS-TAILED XENOPS** (*Microxenops milleri*) – Excellent views, always a rare treat!  
**CHESTNUT-WINGED HOOBILL** (*Ancistrops strigilatus*)  
**STRIPED WOODHAUNTER** (*Hyloctistes subulatus*) [\*]  
**BUFF-THROATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER** (*Automolus ochrolaemus*) [\*]  
**SPECKLED SPINETAIL** (*Cranioleuca gutturata*)  
**CINEREOUS-BREASTED SPINETAIL** (*Synallaxis hypospodia*)  
**RUDDY SPINETAIL** (*Synallaxis rutilans*)

*Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)*

**SUIRIRI FLYCATCHER** (*Suiriri suiriri affinis*)  
**YELLOW-CROWNED TYRANNULET** (*Tyrannulus elatus*)  
**FOREST ELAENIA** (*Myiopagis gaimardii*)  
**YELLOW-BELLIED ELAENIA** (*Elaenia flavogaster*)  
**PLAIN-CRESTED ELAENIA** (*Elaenia cristata*)  
**OCHRE-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** (*Mionectes oleagineus*)  
**SEPIA-CAPPED FLYCATCHER** (*Leptopogon amaurocephalus*)  
**CHICO'S TYRANNULET** (*Zimmerius chicomendesi*) – We enjoyed fine views of this highly distinctive, newly described (HBW) tyrannulet in the campina where I discovered it on this tour in 2009. A pair in came in fast and close, which was good because it was pretty hot out there that morning!  
**GUIANAN TYRANNULET** (*Zimmerius acer*)  
**AMAZONIAN SCRUB-FLYCATCHER** (*Sublegatus obscurior*) – I'm not at all convinced that birds in different habitats around Humaitá are this species (despite what the books say). We had fun doing a playback experiment with the pair we saw so well one late afternoon out there.  
**SHARP-TAILED TYRANT** (*Culicivora caudacuta*) – Yessss! A pair of these fine little flycatchers came if for close scoping.  
**SHORT-TAILED PYGMY-TYRANT** (*Myiornis ecaudatus*)  
**SNETHLAGE'S TODY-TYRANT** (*Hemitriccus minor*) – Good views of this one on the Roosevelt.  
**STRIPE-NECKED TODY-TYRANT** (*Hemitriccus striaticollis*) – Close views!!  
**ZIMMER'S TODY-TYRANT** (*Hemitriccus minimus*) – It was a bit of a neck-craner, but we had pretty good views of a pair.  
**BUFF-CHEEKED TODY-FLYCATCHER** (*Poecilotriccus senex*) – Great views near the campina on the Madeirinha.  
**SPOTTED TODY-FLYCATCHER** (*Todirostrum maculatum*)  
**YELLOW-BROWED TODY-FLYCATCHER** (*Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*)  
**YELLOW-MARGINED FLYCATCHER** (*Tolmomyias assimilis*)  
**GRAY-CROWNED FLYCATCHER** (*Tolmomyias poliocephalus*) [\*]  
**GOLDEN-CROWNED SPADEBILL** (*Platyrinchus coronatus*) [\*]  
**WHITE-CRESTED SPADEBILL** (*Platyrinchus platyrhynchos*) [\*]  
**RUDDY-TAILED FLYCATCHER** (*Terenotriccus erythrurus*)  
**DRAB WATER TYRANT** (*Ochthornis littoralis*)  
**WHITE-HEADED MARSH TYRANT** (*Arundinicola leucocephala*)  
**RUFOUS-TAILED FLATBILL** (*Ramphotrigon ruficauda*) [\*]  
**CINNAMON ATTILA** (*Attila cinnamomeus*) [\*]  
**GRAYISH MOURNER** (*Rhytipterna simplex*) [\*]  
**GREAT KISKADEE** (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)  
**RUSTY-MARGINED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)  
**SOCIAL FLYCATCHER** (*Myiozetetes similis*)  
**DUSKY-CHESTED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiozetetes luteiventris*)  
**YELLOW-THROATED FLYCATCHER** (*Conopias parvus*)  
**PIRATIC FLYCATCHER** (*Legatus leucophaeus*)  
**SULPHURY FLYCATCHER** (*Tyrannopsis sulphurea*)  
**WHITE-THROATED KINGBIRD** (*Tyrannus albogularis*)  
**TROPICAL KINGBIRD** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)

*Cotingidae (Cotingas)*

**BLACK-NECKED RED-COTINGA** (*Phoenicircus nigricollis*) – Durn it, couldn't get it to show (heard just once). [\*]  
**SPANGLED COTINGA** (*Cotinga cayana*)  
**SCREAMING PIHA** (*Lipaugus vociferans*)

**POMPADOUR COTINGA** (*Xipholena punicea*) [\*]  
**BARE-NECKED FRUITCROW** (*Gymnoderus foetidus*)

*Pipridae (Manakins)*

**DWARF TYRANT-MANAKIN** (*Tyrannetes stolzmanni*)  
**FIERY-CAPPED MANAKIN** (*Machaeropterus pyrocephalus*) [\*]  
**SNOW-CAPPED MANAKIN** (*Lepidothrix nattereri*) [\*]  
**BLACK MANAKIN** (*Xenopipo atronitens*) [\*]  
**FLAME-CROWNED MANAKIN** (*Heterocercus linteatus*)  
**BAND-TAILED MANAKIN** (*Pipra fasciicauda*) [\*]  
**RED-HEADED MANAKIN** (*Pipra rubrocapilla*)  
**WING-BARRED PIPRITES** (*Piprites chloris*) [\*]

*Tityridae (Tityras and Allies)*

**MASKED TITYRA** (*Tityra semifasciata*)  
**BROWN-WINGED SCHIFFORNIS** (*Schiffornis turdina*) [\*]  
**WHITE-WINGED BECARD** (*Pachyramphus polychopterus*)  
**BLACK-CAPPED BECARD** (*Pachyramphus marginatus*)

*Vireonidae (Vireos)*

**RED-EYED VIREO (RED-EYED)** (*Vireo olivaceus olivaceus*)  
**GRAY-CHESTED GREENLET** (*Hylophilus semicinereus*)  
**BUFF-CHEEKED GREENLET** (*Hylophilus muscicapinus*)  
**RUFOUS-BROWED PEPPERSHRIKE** (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*) [\*]

*Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)*

**PLUSH-CRESTED JAY** (*Cyanocorax chrysops*) – This subspecies *deisingii* is endemic to Amazonia and is poorly known, seldom seen. We were lucky to get brief views of a small, furtive group on our exploratory morning up a trib of the Roosevelt.

*Hirundinidae (Swallows)*

**BLACK-COLLARED SWALLOW** (*Pygochelidon melanoleuca*)  
**WHITE-BANDED SWALLOW** (*Atticora fasciata*)  
**SOUTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW** (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)  
**PURPLE MARTIN** (*Progne subis*) – Here is some video of that amazing sight at Porto Velho where hundreds of thousands have taken up winter residence in recent years >>>>  
**GRAY-BREASTED MARTIN** (*Progne chalybea*)  
**BROWN-CHESTED MARTIN** (*Progne tapera*)  
**WHITE-WINGED SWALLOW** (*Tachycineta albiventer*)  
**BARN SWALLOW** (*Hirundo rustica*)

*Troglodytidae (Wrens)*

**SCALY-BREASTED WREN** (*Microcerculus marginatus*) – Wow, one showed beautifully for us!  
**TOOTH-BILLED WREN** (*Odontorchilus cinereus*) – Tough to see from the ground, but we managed better views than usual this time around.  
**HOUSE WREN** (*Troglodytes aedon*)  
**MOUSTACHED WREN** (*Pheugopedius genibarbis*)  
**BUFF-BREASTED WREN** (*Cantorchilus leucotis*) [\*]  
**MUSICIAN WREN** (*Cyphorhinus arada*) – Great listens and great views, with patience!

*Poliophtilidae (Gnatcatchers)*

**LONG-BILLED GNATWREN** (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) [\*]  
**PARA GNATCATCHER** (*Poliophtila paraensis*) – One seen well on the Roosevelt. Para is split from Guianan as part of the description of Inambari Gnatcatcher (*P. attenboroughi*), which replaces it west of the Madeira (no luck seeing that one this year).

*Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)*

**PALE-BREASTED THRUSH** (*Turdus leucomelas*)  
**HAUXWELL'S THRUSH** (*Turdus hauxwelli*) [\*]  
**LAWRENCE'S THRUSH** (*Turdus lawrencii*)  
**BLACK-BILLED THRUSH** (*Turdus ignobilis*) – Campina birds, just heard calling [\*]  
**WHITE-NECKED THRUSH** (*Turdus albicollis*) [\*]

*Parulidae (New World Warblers)*

**BUFF-RUMPED WARBLER** (*Myiothlypis fulvicauda*) [\*]

*Thraupidae (Tanagers and Allies)*

**RED-CAPPED CARDINAL** (*Paroaria gularis*)  
**BLACK-FACED TANAGER** (*Schistochlamys melanopsis*)  
**WHITE-RUMPED TANAGER** (*Cypsnagra hirundinacea*) – Wonderful show of displaying, dieting birds in the campos of Humaitá.



**FLAME-CRESTED TANAGER** (*Tachyphonus cristatus*)  
**FULVOUS-CRESTED TANAGER** (*Tachyphonus surinamus*)  
**WHITE-LINED TANAGER** (*Tachyphonus rufus*)  
**WHITE-WINGED SHRIKE-TANAGER** (*Lanio versicolor*) [\*]  
**SILVER-BEAKED TANAGER** (*Ramphocelus carbo*)  
**BLUE-GRAY TANAGER** (*Thraupis episcopus*)  
**PALM TANAGER** (*Thraupis palmarum*)  
**DOTTED TANAGER** (*Tangara varia*) – Good views, although brief -- always a rare treat to see this tanager.  
**PARADISE TANAGER** (*Tangara chilensis*)  
**OPAL-RUMPED TANAGER** (*Tangara velia*)  
**GREEN-AND-GOLD TANAGER** (*Tangara schrankii*)  
**BLACK-FACED DACNIS** (*Dacnis lineata*)  
**YELLOW-BELLIED DACNIS** (*Dacnis flaviventer*) – Right in front of the cabins at the pousada!  
**BLUE DACNIS** (*Dacnis cayana*)  
**SHORT-BILLED HONEYCREEPER** (*Cyanerpes nitidus*) – Fine views from the tower.  
**PURPLE HONEYCREEPER** (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*)  
**GREEN HONEYCREEPER** (*Chlorophanes spiza*)  
**YELLOW-BACKED TANAGER** (*Hemithraupis flavicollis*)  
**WEDGE-TAILED GRASS-FINCH** (*Emberizoides herbicola*)  
**BLUE-BLACK GRASSQUIT** (*Volatinia jacarina*)  
**PLUMBEOUS SEEDEATER** (*Sporophila plumbea*)  
**DARK-THROATED SEEDEATER** (*Sporophila ruficollis*)  
**CHESTNUT-BELLIED SEEDEATER** (*Sporophila castaneiventris*)  
**CHESTNUT-BELLIED SEED-FINCH** (*Oryzoborus angolensis*)  
**BLACK-MASKED FINCH** (*Coryphaspiza melanotis*)  
**BUFF-THROATED SALTATOR** (*Saltator maximus*)  
**SLATE-COLORED GROSBEAK** (*Saltator grossus*) [\*]

*Emberizidae (Buntings and New World Sparrows)*

**GRASSLAND SPARROW** (*Ammodramus humeralis*)  
**YELLOW-BROWED SPARROW** (*Ammodramus aurifrons*)

*Cardinalidae (Cardinals and Allies)*

**BLUE-BLACK GROSBEAK** (*Cyanocompsa cyanoides*) [\*]

*Icteridae (Troupials and Allies)*

**RED-BREASTED BLACKBIRD** (*Sturnella militaris*)  
**GIANT COWBIRD** (*Molothrus oryzivorus*)  
**EPAULET ORIOLE** (*Icterus cayanensis*)  
**RED-RUMPED CACIQUE** (*Cacicus haemorrhous*)  
**YELLOW-RUMPED CACIQUE** (*Cacicus cela*)  
**GREEN OROPENDOLA** (*Psarocolius viridis*)  
**CRESTED OROPENDOLA** (*Psarocolius decumanus*)  
**OLIVE OROPENDOLA** (*Psarocolius bifasciatus*)

*Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)*

**PURPLE-THROATED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia chlorotica*)  
**THICK-BILLED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia laniirostris*)  
**GOLDEN-BELLIED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia chrysopasta*)  
**RUFIOUS-BELLIED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia rufiventris*)

*Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)*

**HOUSE SPARROW** (*Passer domesticus*)

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## MAMMALS

**LONG-NOSED BAT** (*Rhynchonycteris naso*)  
**GREATER BULLDOG BAT** (*Noctilio leporinus*)  
[SILVERY] **MARMOSET** (*Callithrix [argentata] sp.*) – We saw one large (12 or so) group of these elegant little primates, largely white with black tails.  
**COMMON SQUIRREL MONKEY** (*Saimiri sciureus*)  
**DUSKY TITI MONKEY** (*Callicebus moloch*) – Oddly, we did not even hear Prince Bernard's Titi-Monkey this trip. [\*]  
**WHITE-NOSED BEARDED SAKI MONKEY** (*Chiropotes albinasus*)  
**BROWN CAPUCHIN** (*Cebus apella*)

**COMMON WOOLLY MONKEY** (*Lagothrix lagotricha*) – Several great sightings of this superb animal; check out the video >>>>

**WHITE-BELLIED SPIDER MONKEY** (*Ateles belzebuth chamek*) – We saw them a few times, but this fruiting tree on the Roosevelt was really crawling with them! >>>>

**SOUTHERN AMAZON RED SQUIRREL** (*Sciurus spadiceus*)

**RED-RUMPED AGOUTI** (*Dasyprocta agouti*) [\*]

**AMAZON RIVER DOLPHIN** (*Inia geoffrensis*)

**TUCUXI** (*Sotalia fluviatilis*)

**NEOTROPICAL OTTER** (*Lontra longicaudis*) – One nice sighting

**GIANT OTTER** (*Pteronura brasiliensis*) – WOW! The family group at the head of Santa Rita rapids, right off the end of the airstrip, was just fantastic -- loafing on rocks, babying the junior member of the group. I made a little video through the scope >>>>

**BRAZILIAN TAPIR** (*Tapirus terrestris*) – At least three great big ones at the clay lick, very impressive! >>>>

**RED BROCKET DEER** (*Mazama americana*) – Also seen well at the clay lick.

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## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Some of the outstanding extra critters we encountered included a huge "red-kneed" tarantula in the campos of Humaitá; that enormous Black Caiman that cruised around our boats; a minute *Pseudogonatodes* sp. leaf-litter gecko (perhaps the smallest of all vertebrates); the monstrous toad I still have not managed to get an ID for (right in the trail after a rain one afternoon); and the spectacular *Prosthecea cochleata* orchid Bob identified for us.

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**Totals for the tour: 363 bird taxa and 17 mammal taxa**